

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-25

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O P 271830Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1027

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

S E C R E T ATHENS 8235

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: TU CY GR PFOR

SUBJECT: CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A. NICOSIA 3098; B. STATE 254871; C. ATHENS 8230

1. I MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS THIS EVENING (MONDAY) AND IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUESTION SAID I UNDERSTOOD THE SECRETARY WAS INDEED ENDEAVORING TO GET A MESSAGE TO ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS BUT BECAUSE OF THE HOLIDAY PERIOD IN CYPRUS IT DID NOT APPEAR THAT THE MESSAGE WOULD BE DELIVERED UNTIL WEDNESDAY. BITSIOS SAW NO PROBLEM WITH THIS. HE DID NOT APPEAR TO BE IN A HURRY TO MOVE AHEAD AND SAID HIS AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA HAD TOLD HIM THAT CAYGLAYANGIL SEEMED TO PREFER THE MONTH OF DECEMBER REPEAT DECEMBER TO RESUME THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS.

2. I EXPRESSED CHAGRIN AND SAID THAT AS THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAD INDICATED WE WOULD, THE USG HAD BEEN AND WAS NOW MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT WITH THE TURKS AND OTHER PARTIES TO TRY AND ACHIEVE A BREAKTHROUGH TOWARDS A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. HOWEVER, TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE, AND WE COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO DO EVERYTHING OURSELVES. OUR INTERESTS IN THIS, I SAID, COULD NOT BE GREATER THAN GREECE'S -- OR THE CYPRIOTS, FOR THAT MATTER. IT WAS POINTLESS FOR US TO PRESS TO MOVE THINGS AHEAD IF THE PARTIES THEMSELVES WERE GOING TO ADOPT A MORE LEISURELY APPROACH.

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3. BITSIOS SAID WE SHOULD BE AWARE THAT CAYGLAYANGIL HAD BEEN MUCH MORE SPECIFIC AND DEMANDING WITH THE GREEK AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA THAN HE HAD WITH AMBASSADOR MACOMBER. CAYGLAYANGIL HAD SAID THE GREEK CYPRIOTS MUST REPEAT MUST ACCEPT AND STATE THAT THEY ACCEPT A) BIZONAL SOLUTION, B) WEAK FEDERAL POWERS, AND C) EQUAL PARTICIPATION BY THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN RETURN FOR A "REDUCTION" (UNSPECIFIED) IN THE TERRITORY OF THE TURKISH ZONE. BITSIOS SAID THAT MAKARIOS WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE THE FIRST INSTANCE HOW TO DEAL WITH THIS DEMAND, BUT HE (BITSIOS) THOUGHT IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE. THE TURKS WOULD HAVE TO BE SPECIFIC ON THE TERRITORIAL REDUCTION TO BE MADE, AND IN ANY CASE THE "EQUAL PARTICIPATION" BY THE TWO COMMUNITIES -- ONE 18 PERCENT AND THE OTHER 82 PERCENT -- WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. THUS, THE MATTER REQUIRED THE MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BEFORE PROCEEDING.

4. I SAID OKAY, LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH. IT'S BEEN A LONG AND TIRING WEEKEND.
KUBISCH

SECRET

NNN

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